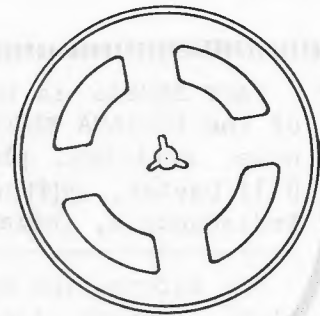


TAPE SQUEAL



INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.

Volume XXIII, Number 10 -- October, 1982

STORY CASSETTES MAKE CAR TRAVEL FUN.

from The Indianapolis Star

Six months ago, a San Francisco physician and his wife drove to Lake Tahoe, Nev., with their daughter, 10, and son, 8, for a skiing weekend. Along the way, they encountered a blizzard.

But upon reaching the parking lot of the lodge where they were staying, no one got out of the station wagon, in spite of having just ridden for three hours. It was not the accumulating snow that kept everyone inside, however. It was the Mind's Eye cassette tapes of the novel "Treasure Island".

The children would not budge for 15 minutes, until the second of two tapes had completed the story.

Robert Evans, vice president of the Mind's Eye, a company that makes cassettes of novels, short stories and plays, stresses companionship, especially on long car trips, as a value of his product.

"It's like taking that eccentric uncle along because he's full of tales, but not having to feed him," Evans said.

The concept of this cassette series was developed 10 years ago by Robert Lewis, who at the time was a professor of English and American literature at St. John's University at Jamaica, N.Y.

Now president of the Mind's Eye, Lewis employs nearly 100 actors. The tapes, which cost \$3.75 to \$5 each, have sound effects and music to enhance the dialogue, but narration is kept to a minimum for dramatic effect. The tapes are 30 to 66 minutes long; many have read-along scripts.

Current categories are adventure classics, short stories, plays, great Americans, fairy tales and fantasy (some available in Spanish), Middle Earth adventures, American and English novels, Greek classics and old-time radio drama and humor.

For information, write to Box 6727, San Francisco, California, 94101.



A BOUQUET FOR SHARON!

We had to pass along a real nice letter just received from Harold E. Carlstrom, IRC #1450, Austin, Minnesota. Harold writes:

"To all the old board members:

I suppose you often wonder if those people out in the hinterlands even care whether school keeps or not, but we do, and we all appreciate the effort you people put out for us. And to the editor, who so faithfully produced our "Squeal", Sharon, you are wonderful, and to think you did it under such adverse conditions." (*Interim editor's note: Sharon would have no doubt modestly deleted the preceding sentence, but since I agree whole-heartedly with Harold's opinion of Sharon, who happens to be Eleanor's and my daughter, I left it in.*)

"And by the way, did you know there is another paper in the U.S. called the "Squeal"? The Geo. A. Hormel house organ is called the "Squeal". Years ago, their motto was, "We can everything but the squeal, and we write about that". The outside cover showed some little pigs and quite an effort for a packing house in those days."

TAPE SQUEAL is the monthly newsletter of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB. Send all news, articles, photos, ads, etc., to Bill Davies, editor, 1729 E. 77th St., Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240.

For information about membership in the club, contact the secretary, Eleanor Davies, 1729 E. 77th St., Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240.

Please send all changes of address and changes in directory data to Eleanor Davies, who is also directory manager. **ALL ADDRESS CHANGES MUST BE SENT IN AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE TO ENSURE UNINTERRUPTED DELIVERY OF TAPE SQUEAL.**

NOTE TO ALL NEW MEMBERS:

When you receive your welcoming tape, please return the accompanying postcard to the committee chairman, Bill Kearney, 2625 West Jefferson Road, Kokomo, Indiana, 46901.

YOUR IRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT - Dennis Burcher
VICE PRESIDENT - Bill Tillett
SECRETARY - Eleanor Davies
TREASURER - John Oliver
MEMBER - Bill Endicott
MEMBER - Gene Scott

TRADING POST

Free notices for IRC members, concerning tape and related items to sell, buy, trade, etc.

R. A. ROSENQUIST, D-42, would be interested in taping with Edison cylinder owners, or about the players and cylinders.

ARMAND BAKALIAN, S-5, has for sale a Sharp original "Talking Time", model CT660E. Features voice synthesized quartz clock, LCD display, wake-up alarm with snooze feature, 3 stop watches, and 3 elapsed time counters. Comes with batteries, instructions, carrying strap and leatherette carrying case that lets you carry the clock on your belt. Price including shipping, \$50. Write, or call (212) 883-2430.

BILL PAPROCKI, S-30, has for sale 78 5" reels of tape in boxes. \$45 price includes postage and handling. Also looking for the Big Bands of Tiny Hill, Jimmy Palmer, Dick Stabile and Mal Hallet. Will send 7" reels of tape to anyone who has these Big Bands, and will be happy to send back anything that you are looking for.

TOM SOKERKA, SR., S-57, is looking for Frank Sinatra's "Flowers Mean Forgiveness" on Side 1 and "You'll Get Yours" on Side 2, on a Capitol 78 rpm record #3350 (14942) & (14430) respectively. Also, does anyone have a record of Frank Sinatra with title of "Bright Lights & Blonde Headed Women", or are these words part of the lyrics?

Also would like any tapes of "Ole Blue Eyes" when he had his radio show in Los Angeles. Name of show was "Perfectly Frank". Also, does anyone out yonder have country/western/hillbilly music from the 30's thru the 50's?

JIM HOLT, S-3, has for sale a 1981 Toshiba, 2 speed, portable video recorder/tuner (9 months old and very low hours). Complete with original carton and these accessories: 12V car cord, rechargeable battery, A/C power supply (for charging battery and running recorder when on vacation, away from hard wired tuner, etc.) \$925.00 (\$825 less battery & power supply).

ED HALL, D-1 & S-50, is looking for music from LP sound track albums for the following: A Star is Born; You Li Life; Thank God It's Friday; Norma Rae; Fame; and Arthur. The Academy Award winning songs from these pictures taken from a TV showing of the picture, would be O.K. too.

MARTY LANDOLT, S-29. WANTED: OPERAS! As a start I'd like the opera ALCESTE by GLUCK. Later I'll be asking for COSI FAN TUTTE by Mozart.



JOE CRAWFORD, S-41, would like to obtain current & old time radio BBC shows. Also looking for South Africa, New Zealand & Canada OTR. Has some BBC etc., & fairly large American OTR collection to trade. Also looking for soap operas & quiz shows.

JIM McFARLANE, D-85, has for sale, 5 cassettes by Ajax of the complete Benny Goodman series, volumes 8, 9, 27, 29, 30. Total cost of these tapes was \$27.50. Will sell all five for \$16. Save \$11.50. (This price will include 4th class postage. If you want insurance, add \$1.00.)

Continued on track 4

SCRUB THOSE HEADS!

by

Nate Resnick, #2265

One of the basic requirements for good sound reproduction on tape is CLEAN TAPE HEADS, not just a light going over with a tooth pick and alcohol swab. We have a report of a member who suffered with poor tape recording and reproduction for 15 years because he cleaned his tape heads with a tooth pick and alcohol swabs. He took the recorder to two repair shops and after three months gave up and was ready to send the recorder out of town for repair.

Bill Tillett, our V.P., asked the member if he scrubbed the tape heads. The answer was, "No". After a good scrubbing with an alcohol swab, the recorder performed like new. The heads MUST BE SCRUBBED to dissolve the goop that forms on the heads after prolonged use. Clean heads are a must for good sound reproduction on tape. Drug stores sell "Alcohol Swabs" which are used by diabetics for insulin needle administration of insulin. These swabs are excellent for tape head cleaning and they are inexpensive.



"You won't believe what you can record on this corner!"

WANTED

Reporters, writers, columnists, cartoonists, AND AN EDITOR! That's what is wanted!

When Sharon announced that due to lack of time because of work, college and two teen-age daughters, she would be unable to continue editing Tape Squeal, I volunteered (in a weak moment) to serve as interim editor until a replacement could be found.

WELL, (as Reagan says), WELL, the expected stampede of applicants for the NO-PAY job of editor hasn't materialized, so here I am, stuck with it. Gosh, there oughta be somebody with a blue pencil out there, who could do the job much better than I'm going to be doing it. Actually, you don't even need your own blue pencil! The pencil, a pot of paste and a Sperry-Remington Electric Typewriter go with the job! So come on, future editor, whoever you are, let's hear from you!

In the meantime, I am badly in need of grist for the Tape Squeal mill. So how about sending in articles, clippings, stories, cartoons, pictures or anything else you can think of which might be of interest to our readers?

In the past, dozens of members have been more or less regular contributors to Tape Squeal, with articles about such subjects as Old Time Radio, technical articles, how-to-do-it pieces, etc. I would like to see everybody who has ever sent in anything for Tape Squeal to continue doing so.

And to you who have never sent in anything, I am sure that each of you has at least one interesting story to tell about yourself, your equipment, how you solved some taping problem, or whatever.

So keep those cards and letters coming in, folks. This editor job might turn out to be so interesting that I won't want to give it up!

---Bill Davies, Interim Editor

IRC REGAINS CORPORATION STATUS.

Our hard working and efficient treasurer, John Oliver, reports that he has now filed all the necessary information reports and paid all the filing fees at the Secretary of State's office to qualify the Indiana Recording Club as a duly registered Indiana not-for-profit corporation.

This means that we will not be subject to pay Indiana corporation income taxes on our dues or other receipts when tax-paying time comes around, since we are once again established as a not-for-profit corporation.

This status has some other advantages also. It somewhat simplifies and clarifies our bank account procedures and it can have a protective effect with regard to potential liability of our officers and members. We hope to maintain this status from year to year.

---Bill Tillett, V.P.

PRESIDENT CANDIDATES ARE NECK AND NECK!

There might be a photo finish in the race for office of IRC president, as Doris Oliver and Bill Endicott are now running neck and neck.

Although the election is not until January, and Indianapolis area members who plan to attend the January meeting can vote then, all others who have not yet voted, please mail in your ballots now, before you forget.

HOW TO SALVAGE OLD ACETATE RECORDINGS

by Jerry Johnson

Have you looked and played some of your recordings lately that were made 10 or 20 years ago? After buying some old r/r tapes and having them break, I am carefully reading 3-M's RECORDING BASICS (\$1.00).

Humidity probably presents no great problem as modern polyester tapes are virtually impervious to humidity. Older acetate tapes, however, should be given closer attention. Since acetate tapes tend to dry out in time and to become brittle, it is a good policy to dub prized or valuable old acetate tape recordings to polyester tapes.

Store reels on edge. Avoid stacking.

Buy and read this booklet. It's basic to producing good recordings on any tape or cassette. Here are two clippings from the booklet:

Magnetic tape recordings dating back to the early 1950's are not unusual. Some priceless performances, voices, events are preserved on tape. The recordings themselves will last for centuries, but the base materials used in earlier years will not. Acetate base, unlike modern polyester materials, tends to dry out and become brittle. A valued recording on such a reel can be salvaged by dubbing onto a new polyester tape

If the old tape is brittle and breaks easily it can be conditioned for dubbing by adding moisture to the acetate base. A convenient way to do this is to place the reel in film can, such as the seven-inch can used to store 8 mm movie film. Place in the can also a five-inch square of blotter paper dampened slightly with water (five or six drops are sufficient). Put the cover on the can and seal with plastic electrical tape, such as "Scotch" Brand No. 33, and let the container stand for two weeks at room temperature.

After this time it should be ready for dubbing. For dubbing procedures consult the instruction manual for your tape deck or recorder.

Good Practice

Every reel, cassette, or cartridge of magnetic tape should receive careful attention in its handling and storage. Reels and cassettes should always be returned to their boxes immediately after use, as dust and other contaminants quickly degrade optimum performance. Clean hands too are important as oil and perspiration make it easier for tape surfaces to attract and hold extraneous materials that foul heads and cause excessive wear.

Magnetic tapes should always be stored in their protective boxes *on end* (in book fashion). This prevents warping and damage to the plastic carrier. Many professional tape users rewind important tapes *before* storing. A loosely rewound tape removes powerful stresses that can cause stretching. A good practice also is to rewind a tape just prior to use. This adds a fluff of air between the layers and removes adhesions that can cause momentary dropouts during recording.

* * * * *

ARTHUR L. WOLFORD, #1442, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, has advised that due to a serious illness, he will have to discontinue taping until further notice.

MYSTERY IRC MEMBER

WHO IS THIS IRC MEMBER? He lives in a state which is not very well represented in the IRC membership roster, and he is the only IRC member living in his town. See if you can identify him from these clues:

The world's largest trout ranch is just a few miles from his home. Not much of a clue, was it, unless you're an expert on trout ranches., so try these: His state is famous for potatoes, and his home town is not very far from the Shoshone Falls of the Snake River. Are you still in doubt? Then these two clues should do it: He lives about 75 miles southwest of Craters of the Moon National Monument, and about the same distance south of the famous ski resort, Sun Valley.

See bottom of track 5 for answer.

* * * * *

TRADING POST. (Continued)

John Oliver, D-40, wants, "I'm Walking Backwards Out of Town" by Liz Somebody. Also would like any version of "Melody of Love" (the old one), especially if it is sung. Does anyone have any of Lyn Larsen's organ records? Masters of all but 4 have been destroyed. He made 18. Will furnish tape or cassette for any of the above.

Jerry Johnson, D-36, wants any of Will Glahe's stereo records. He has STRICTLY OOMPAH! Also interested in Elmer Scheid's HOOLERIE HULLABALOO, and Heinz Schachtner's SONGS OF OLD GERMANY with sing-along lyrics.

Since so many IRC members are interested in tape/slide shows, this article from the September issue of Popular Photography magazine, might be of interest.

Audiotronics 124S

Portable cassette recorder adds synched sound to slide shows

- Dual-track audio-cassette recorder
- Provision for recording 1,000-Hz pulses on second track of tape for slide-projection synch
- Fast forward and rewind
- Auto stop at end of tape

- Built-in electret microphone; external microphone and remote-control sockets
- Built-in 3-in. round speaker
- Auxiliary input
- Size: 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ x9 $\frac{7}{8}$ x2 $\frac{1}{8}$ in.
- Weight: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

The Audiotronics 124S looks much like any of the countless portable cassette recorders on the market, right down to its piano-style keys. The big difference is that it allows you to record 1,000-Hz pulses on the second half of the tape for sound-synchronized operation of a slide projector. It comes with a six-ft. synch cord for connection to any machine with the five-pin remote-control socket that has become virtually standard on all but the most basic models.

Operation couldn't be simpler. The recorder has a built-in mike, as well as an input for an external one, along with a socket for remote control. Level control is automatic (only). The audio-track control keys (l. to r.) consist of record, rewind, fast forward, play, and stop. It is possible to instantly switch from one mode to another without having to stop the tape first.

The "synch recorder" panel has two push buttons. You must press the lower one down to its "record" position to prepare for registering pulses. Contrary to the instructions, I found that this isn't possible unless the audio-play key is pressed, either before or simultaneously. While the recorder is on play and you can hear the sound track, you may press the upper, or pulse-registering, button whenever you want to switch slides. Simultaneously, you can watch your slides change, and you'll also hear a beep, assuring you that you're progressing correctly. Of course, you could record audio and pulse tracks at the same time, but that's a bit too much to handle. Moreover, both the beep and the projector's slide-changing clang would become part of your sound track. It's better to prepare the sound track first, and add the slide-



changing pulses later. In other words, you can record or erase either track independently, without affecting the other. The pulse button automatically pops up from its record into its play position as soon as you press the stop key, preventing unintentional erasure of the pulse-synch track.

Other features include an auxiliary input for dubbing from another recorder, radio, or phonograph, and an output for a headset or auxiliary speaker. Power output is 500 milliwatt, ANSI standard. The machine operates on either four C batteries or 120-volt 50/60 Hz a.c.

Audiotronics is a firm that previously has catered almost exclusively to the audio-visual market, and this consumer product presents a departure. The 124S is a simple, basic machine, lacking any pretense at frills such as even a cassette ejector, but it has what's essential—such as a digital counter. It is easy to operate, and I found it to work dependably. Weighing a mere 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., it offers a simple, convenient way to enhance a slide show with a sound track.

Price is \$159.95. Audiotronics is located at 7428 Bellaire Ave., North Hollywood, Ca. 91609.

Leendert Drukker ●

"THAT TIME OF DAY"

by

Michael J. Mooney, #2185

Any time of day can be "the right time" to record and share portions of our lives with fellow members. For me, however, there is a special time for many of us when we pause in our activities, perhaps to reminisce, reflect, or just to gaze at the western sky. "That time of day", as I call it, is evening twilight or dusk.

For me, dusk is a magical time, rich in memories, emotions, serenity, peace, and whatever you wish to make of this fleeting, this deliciously fleeting interval between day and night. Much has been written through history on twilight and many songs have extolled this very special time.

I would like to exchange cassette tapes (stereo preferred but mono okay) with members who have this same "thing" about the enchanting hour of twilight. Let's share what we have and know, thereby enriching each other. By the way, if all you have is reel-to-reel, I can accommodate such an exchange, though cassette would be preferred. Feel free to tape or write. Receipt of tapes will be acknowledged on arrival by postcard. Looking forward to hearing from you ... and you ... (and you?).



NEW DIRECTORY



Have you remembered to send in your directory questionnaire? There is still time to send it in if you want anything changed in your listing in the new directory, as it won't go to press at least until late fall, or perhaps not until next winter.

But don't wait until then to send it in, as we intend to start typing the new directory very soon.

MYSTERY MEMBER:

The "Mystery Member" is Calvin L. Neal, #833, Jerome, Idaho. If you would like to be a "mystery member", send in a black & white picture.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS.

Regular meetings of the Indiana Recording Club are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in the lower level meeting room of the Leppert & Copeland Mortuary, 740 E. 86th St., Indianapolis.

* * * * GUESTS ARE WELCOME! * * * *

SEPTEMBER 19TH.

There will be a panel discussion on Equipment, Service & Maintenance of tape recorders and related equipment. Dennis Burcher, John Oliver, Bill Endicott & Bill Tillett will answer any and all questions with (we hope) the right answers! Also the coffee pot will be plugged in and there might even be cookies.

OCTOBER 17TH.

John Oliver will present a tape/slide show with a nostalgic look at Indianapolis in days gone by, and an up-to-date look at some of the dramatic changes which have been made in recent years and are still being made.

NOVEMBER 21ST.

Another tape/slide show by Vern Klingler. It is untitled as yet, but we can guarantee it will be a good one.

MUSIC LIBRARY

Ernie Greene, #2073, from way out west in Red Mountain, California, donated a 7" reel, #503 in the library. On side 1 is the original sound track recording of "Taxi Driver" starring Robert DeNiro and Jodie Foster, plus some popular songs by Joan Baez and Buffy Saint Marie. On side 2 is "Catch the Brass Ring", merry-go-round music by a Wur-litzer 165 band organ.

Angel Morales, #2061, Venus Gardens, Puerto Rico, sent in a cassette, #C-171, by Spain's foremost exponent of the modern Spanish guitar, Paco de Lucia and his Rumba-Jazz Guitar. On side 2 is FLAMENCO. Spanish guitar in the traditional ageless way.

A few months ago I mentioned in this column that part of Music Library tape #185, Roger Williams album, "Love Theme from The Godfather", had been accidentally erased by one of our members, and the person who had given the tape to the library ten years ago, was no longer in the club.

I requested anybody who might have this album and would like to dub it for the library to please let me know. Well, somebody did let me know, but his reply has been lost and I have no idea who it was. So - if whoever has this album will let me know again, I will send you a reel of tape and postage - and my thanks.

---- Bill Davies, Music Librarian

MAILING LABELS

two color with IRC logo

Reel size: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cassette size: 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 4

Price - \$1.75/100 - either size

Order from: VERN DAVIS

8805 Madison, #301A

Indianapolis, IN. 46227

When ordering. please specify size.

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

Bill Davies, Editor

1729 E. 77th St.

Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240

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